

Minutes of the Finance Committee

Wednesday, October 15, 2014

Chair Heinrich called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Jim Heinrich, Duane Paulson, Richard Morris, Steve Whittow, Bill Zaborowski, Eric Highum, and Larry Nelson. Nelson left the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Also Present: Chief of Staff Mark Mader, Budget Manager Linda Witkowski, Land Use Committee Chair Pauline Jaske, Register of Deeds Jim Behrend, Deputy Register of Deeds Beth Zimmermann, Senior Financial Analysts Steve Trimborn and Rob Dunn, and Parks & Land Use Director Dale Shaver. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Schedule Next Meeting Dates

- October 22

Discuss and Consider the 2015 Operating Budget for the Register of Deeds Office

Behrend, Dunn, Zimmermann, and Jaske were present to discuss the 2015 operating budget for the Register of Deeds Office including revenues and expenditures, the positions summary, current capital projects, strategic outcomes and objectives, and program highlights. For 2015, both revenues and expenditures total \$1,439,232 – a decrease of \$1,827 or 0.1% from the adopted 2014 budget. The County tax levy line item shows a credit of \$1,956,301 – an increase of \$25,000. The positions summary shows an increase of 0.6 full-time equivalent positions for a total of 18.69.

No major concerns were voiced by committee members. To answer Heinrich's and Paulson's questions, Jaske said no amendments were proposed by the Land Use Committee and the committee supported the budget as presented.

MOTION: Paulson moved, second by Whittow to tentatively approve the 2015 operating budget for the Register of Deeds Office. Motion carried 7-0.

Discuss and Consider the 2015 Operating Budget for the Parks & Land Use Department

Shaver was present to discuss the 2015 operating budget for the Parks & Land Use Department including revenues and expenditures, the positions summary, current capital projects, strategic outcomes and objectives, and program highlights. For 2015, revenues total \$17,906,627 – an increase of \$1,550,290 or 9.5% from the adopted 2014 budget. The County tax levy totals \$7,286,010 – an increase of \$10,000 or 0.1%. Expenditures total \$25,200,495 – an increase of \$1,798,318 or 7.7%. The positions summary shows a decrease of 6.85 FTE positions for a total of 176.24.

No major concerns were voiced by committee members. However, when Shaver noted operations grant funding for the old courthouse was discontinued in 2014, Paulson was concerned this historic building would become dilapidated or turn into a boarding house. He said will not pursue the matter, however, because the interest just isn't there. Shaver said he was more optimistic. There are development opportunities to preserve the building yet continue providing a cultural amenity.

Shaver said the Historical Society will do a much better job at operating that facility than the County and the County getting out of that business was a really good move.

Nelson left the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Prior to leaving, he expressed his support for this budget.

To answer Paulson's question, Jaske said no amendments were proposed by the Land Use Committee and the committee supported the budget as presented.

MOTION: Morris moved, second by Paulson to tentatively approve the 2015 operating budget for the Parks & Land Use Department. Motion carried 6-0.

Discuss and Consider Issues Presented at the October 15 Finance Committee Public Hearing
There were no comments or issues presented at the Public hearing.

MOTION: Highum moved, second by Paulson to adjourn at 11:53 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Zaborowski
Secretary